

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

piastre and the success of Long's local loan ushered in a decade of unparalleled prosperity which did not a little to increase the colony's separatist desires. Colonials resented hotly the appearance of Parisian journalists, who returned their hospitality by describing them as to-natural brutes or as caricatures of Europeans. Writers spent a few weeks in the country and the inevitable book appeared in due course, whose sales were apportioned to the colonial scandals it revealed. Undoubtedly there were many inaccurate and foolish statements therein, but colonials refused to admit any of the unpleasant truths were proclaimed. Resentment was at white heat over Dorgeles' comments on the Hongay coal mines and at Madame Viollis' revelations of prison conditions. Colonials might be at each others' throats, but they naturally resented being criticized and judged by transient reporters. It was but another form of the mother country's nagging interference.

Two factors evident in the later 1930's counteracted this independence movement. Aggrieved colonials and natives alike found it convenient and effective to appeal to Metropolitan opinion. When the Socialist deputy Varenne stirred up the colonial hornets' nest, the President of the Saigon Chamber of Commerce departed post-haste for France to obtain his recall. Simultaneously two Annamite nationalists toured France on behalf of their oppressed compatriots. And enough both factions found partial satisfaction. Aglimmering of common sense revealed to all but fanatics that there were too many elements of strife within the colony to be safely freed from France's control.

The depression was, however, the decisive factor in reuniting France

to her wayward colony. The government might
 nail lodo-Quinfr
 piastre to the gold franc, and tariff assimilation might
 still be voted by
 the deputies, but it took the hard realities of a declining
 world market
 to drive home to colonials the value of the mother
 country. Wfaea
 Far¹ Eastern tariff walls closed down on Indo-
 China, the colony
 sell her rice, com, and rubber to France* The
 Metropole
 did a loan that permitted the continuation of
 the public
 the 'Colony's development. Arrogant **sod**
 in the days of her prosperity, the prodigal colony
 tut
 to, the' parental fold in adveisity. While the
 Mete»p€Je%
faa not any killing of the fatted calf, for the '
 ane openly hostile, yet France has stood
 by her
 m the of **need.**, It is possible, however, that
 the new
 the Far East gitea by Kobia may have come just
 in time.